

**BioDistrict New Orleans
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

935 Gravier Street, Suite 2020, New Orleans, LA

Commissioners Present: Gene D'Amour, Joseph Moerschbaecher, Harold Gaspard, Rebecca Conwell, Sharon Courtney, John Hope, Charles Rice, Darrick LeBoeuf, Reverend Kaseem Short, Kelisha Garret

Commissioners Absent: Andy Kopplin, Dr. Larry Hollier, Roger Ogden, Donna Klein, Yvette Jones, Kacie Kelly

Others: New Orleans Business Alliance staff (Quentin L. Messer, Jr. and Cheyenne Ellis), Jamie Guillory, Chris D'Amour (via phone)

Quorum: Present

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- I. **Call to Order**
Meeting was called to order at 8:40am CST.
 - II. **Roll Call**
Cheyenne Ellis performed a roll call of board commissioners. Quorum was present.
 - III. **Adopt Agenda for Board Meeting**
Board commissioners adopted agenda for board meeting. No comments were made regarding the agenda.
 - IV. **Introduction of Guest(s)**
No public guests were present at this meeting.
 - V. **Call for Public Input Cards on Agenda Items**
No public input cards were received.
 - VI. **Adoption of Minutes**
Minutes from the prior three BioDistrict Board of Commissioners meetings were adopted. No changes were requested.

VII. New Business

The Board of Commissioners voted to approve the renewal of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with New Orleans Business Alliance (“NOLABA”) and Greater New Orleans Biosciences Economic Development District (“BioDistrict”) for the 2015 through 2016 term. The term of the previous 2014 – 2015 CEA ends in October 2015. The newly adopted CEA outlined the scope of services to be performed by NOLABA.

Chris D’Amour provided an update on the ongoing James McNamara case via phone. The case was recently dismissed, and it is very likely the case will get dismissed again if the attempt is made to file once more.

VIII. Financial Report

Jaime Guillory provided a financial report as of September 30, 2015. There are no anticipated changes by year end. The BioDistrict Board of Commissioners approved the 2015 budget, which was unable to gain approval previously due to lack of quorum. A draft 2016 budget was also presented to the board and approved since there are no more remaining meetings in 2015.

IX. Chairman’s Report

Gene D’Amour gave a presentation on recent Brookings Report on the impact and value of Innovation Districts. The report argued the ability of innovation districts to spur economic growth, and bring greater prosperity and opportunities to surrounding neighborhoods.

X. Update on New Orleans Business Alliance Initiatives

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. gave a presentation on the future of growing the Bio cluster in New Orleans. The presentation outlined preliminary findings from NOLABA’s recent Bio Industry Analysis, commissioned by a consultant team consisting of Perkins + Will, Kurt Salmon, and HP Executive Solutions. NOLABA is currently engaging key stakeholders, including the BioDistrict Board of Commissioners, to further define Bio prospects and NOLABA’s role in accelerating Bio-related economic development.

XI. Other Old Business

No old business was presented.

XII. Public Comment(s)

No public comment(s) were made.

XIII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was presented by John Hope, with the approval of the commissioners present at 9:30 AM CST.